



Minnesota Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

For the week ending May 17, 2015
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Precipitation across Minnesota limited farmers to only **1.7 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 17, 2015, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Despite being the least amount of days suitable for fieldwork since the season began, progress remained ahead of the normal pace. Field activities for the week included planting and spraying when conditions allowed.

Recent precipitation increased soil moisture levels, but caused some erosion and ponding. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 5 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 15 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Seventy-two percent of the Minnesota **corn** crop had emerged, almost 2 weeks ahead of the five-year average. **Soybean** planting increased 9 percentage points during the week to 79 percent complete. Twenty-one percent of the soybean acreage had emerged, 12 days ahead of the previous year and 10 days ahead of average. **Barley** was 86 percent emerged, 4 weeks ahead of last year and almost 3 weeks ahead of average. The first barley condition rating of the year was estimated at 0 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Fourteen percent of the **oat** acreage was at or beyond the jointing stage, 18 days ahead of last year. Oat condition rated 79 percent good to excellent. Ninety percent of the **spring wheat** acreage was emerged, 4 weeks ahead of the previous year, and just over 3 weeks ahead of normal. Spring wheat condition rated 55 percent good to excellent, dropping 6 points from last week. **Dry edible beans** were 39 percent planted and 17 percent emerged. Fifty-two percent of the **sunflower** acreage has been planted, 20 days ahead of last year and 10 days ahead of average.

All hay condition rated 66 percent good to percent excellent, up 3 percentage points from the previous year. Some farmers were worried about alfalfa fields being dry enough to harvest. **Pasture** condition rated 62 percent good to excellent, up 9 percentage points from the previous week. Producers were still concerned about the spread of Avian Influenza in both turkeys and chickens.

Crop Progress as of May 17, 2015

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	1.7	4.0	2.8	3.7
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley emerged.....	86	78	5	42
Corn emerged	72	39	3	27
Dry ed. beans planted	39	35	1	15
Dry ed. beans emerged.....	17	0	0	(NA)
Oats emerged	89	77	24	51
Oats jointing.....	14	5	0	6
Potatoes planted	92	90	28	62
Soybeans planted	79	70	14	33
Soybeans emerged	21	1	0	5
Spring Wheat emerged	90	82	7	44
Sunflowers planted.....	52	48	0	22

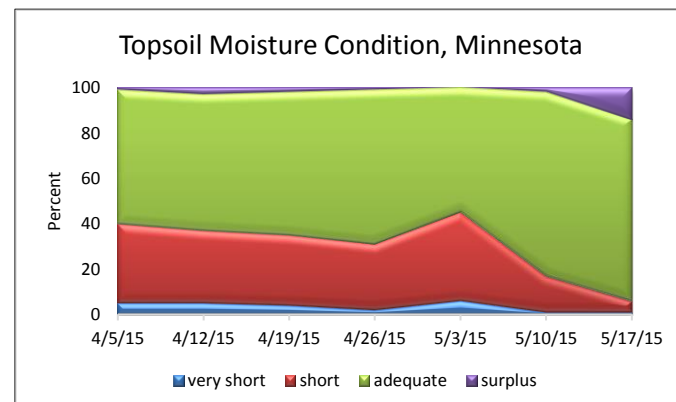
(NA) Not available.

Crop Condition as of May 17, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley	0	2	42	50	6
Hay, all	3	11	20	60	6
Oats	0	0	21	70	9
Pasture.....	0	9	29	56	6
Spring Wheat...	0	1	44	48	7

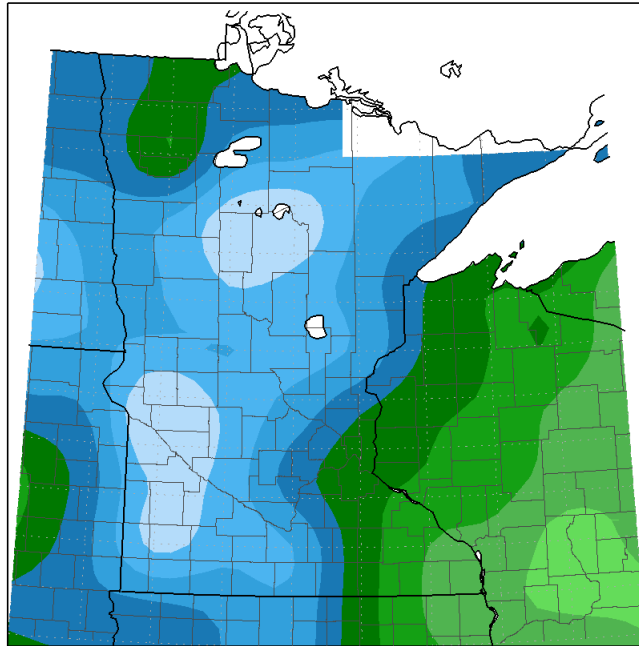
Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 17, 2015

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture	1	5	80	14
Subsoil Moisture	2	15	81	2



Minnesota Temperatures and Precipitation for the week ending May 17, 2015

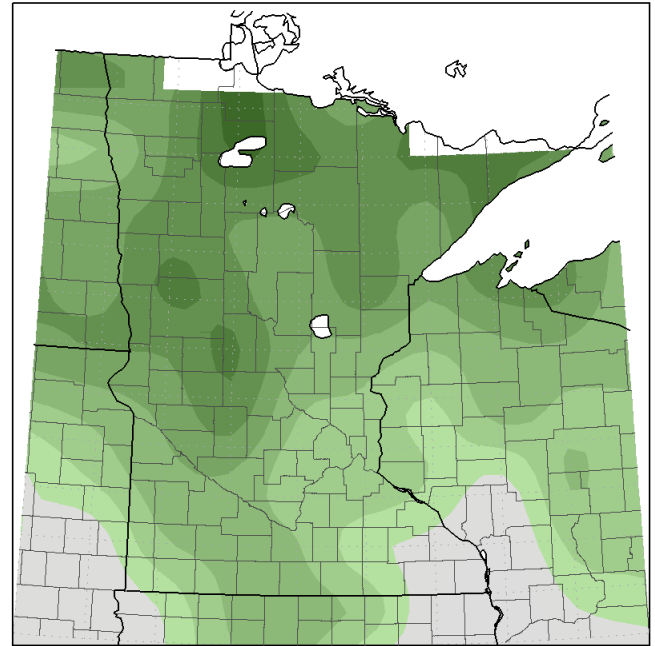
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 11, 2015 to May 17, 2015



0.01 0.1 0.3 0.75 1.5 2.5 4
0.00 0.05 0.2 0.5 1 2 3 5

Midwestern Regional Climate Center
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment
Generated at: 5/18/2015 8:01:31 AM CDT

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean
May 11, 2015 to May 17, 2015



Mean period is 1981–2010.
-8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0 1

Midwestern Regional Climate Center
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment
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National Weather Service data, courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office, is available at:
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/historical/summary.html>

Growing Degree Days can be found at <https://mygeohub.org/groups/u2u/gdd>

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>